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NOVEMBER 7.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Twenty-five members present.

A paper entitled "Notes on American Cretaceous Fossils, with descriptions of some New Species," by Wm. M. Gabb, was presented for publication.

*On Conglomerate No. XII.*—Mr. YOUNG described the Conglomerate No. XII. as it appears upon the New River in West Virginia.

The formation consists of alternate members of shale and sandstone; the latter numbering five, which are massive, but not conglomeritic, and form cliffs upon the sides of the hills which flank the river.

The shaly members of the group contain workable coal-beds. There are four beds, ranging in thickness from three to five feet. Small seams are also present.

The total thickness of the formation is about one thousand feet, half of which is represented in the sandstone cliffs.

The formation as above described extends from Hinton to Hawk's Nest, the latter point being a bold cliff formed of one of the sandstone layers of the formation.

The New River at Hinton falls over a barrier made by one of the sandstone members.

The falls of the Kanawha are made by the upper plate of the conglomerate.

*The Australians.*—Dr. PICKERING, having recently made a communication to the Academy on the sources of the native population of New Zealand and Tasmania, now proposed to speak of Australia.

The zoological character of Australia precludes the origin there of a member of the human family, and the Australians are intruding strangers; but where they come from is a mystery.

The most prominent photographs at the Centennial Exposition are unsatisfactory, with the exception of two life-sized heads of clearly pure-blooded natives; while the many excellent small photographs require closer inspection than is usually afforded to visitors.

At the Fiji Islands, he had been informed by a chief of the existence of "long-haired" people in the interior of the main island; similar accounts are given of other large islands westward, and there are inland people in the Malayan archipelago about whom very little is known; yet it does not seem probable that